Appln. No. 09/780,113

Amdt. dated: August 20, 2003

Reply to Final Office Action of June 20, 2003

**REMARKS** 

Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-12, 14-38, and 41-62 have been canceled. After entry of this amendment,

claims 13, 39, and 40 will be pending.

With respect to all amendments and cancelled claims, Applicants have not dedicated or

abandoned any unclaimed subject matter and moreover have not acquiesced to any rejections

and/or objections made by the Patent Office. Applicants reserve the right to pursue prosecution

of any presently excluded claim embodiments in future continuation and/or divisional

applications.

Allowability of Claims 13, 39, and 40

Applicants thank the Examiner for the indication of allowability of claims 13, 39, and 40.

Applicants have cancelled all pending claims except those that have been allowed. Applicants

respectfully request early notification of allowance.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) over Lee et al.

The Examiner has rejected claims 26 and 27 under 35 U.S.C. 102 as being anticipated by

Lee et al.

Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection. However, without acquiescing to the

Examiner's rejection, and solely to expedite allowance of the pending claims, Applicants have

canceled the rejected claims.

This ground for rejection is now moot. Applicants respectfully request that it be

withdrawn.

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Docket N . 506812000120

sf-1542061

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Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) over Asai et al.

The Examiner has rejected claim 32 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Asai et al.

Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection. However, without acquiescing to the Examiner's rejection, and solely to expedite allowance of the pending claims, Applicants have canceled the rejected claim.

This ground for rejection is now moot. Applicants respectfully request that it be withdrawn.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over Asai et al. in view of Scholin and Lee

The Examiner has rejected claims 32-34, 36, 41, and 54 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being obvious over Asai et al. in view of Scholin and Lee. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection. However, without acquiescing to the Examiner's rejection, and solely to expedite allowance of the pending claims, Applicants have canceled the rejected claims.

This ground for rejection is now moot. Applicants respectfully request that it be withdrawn.

## Conclusion

In light of the above amendments and remarks, Applicant believes that this case is now in condition for allowance. Should there be any remaining issues that remain unresolved, the Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned.

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In the unlikely event that the transmittal letter is separated from this document and the Patent Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, applicant petitions for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Assistant Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to **Deposit Account No. 03-1952** referencing docket no. **506812000120**. However, the Assistant Commissioner is not authorized to charge the cost of the issue fee to the Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated:

August 20, 2003

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